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COORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONPROPOSED FRENCH EXPORT OF QUARTZ OSCILLATORS TO POLAND26th September, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document 4122

1. The UNITED STATES Delegate, referring to the proposal concerning an export of quartz oscillators to Poland which the French Delegation had submitted under the minimum shipments procedure (COCOM 4122), stated that he had been instructed to raise an objection to this proposal. The United States authorities considered that the quartz oscillators involved had higher technical characteristics than those required for radio and television and that they could readily be diverted to strategic ends. In the view of the United States experts, these oscillators had technical characteristics for military uses and principally required for such uses.
2. The FRENCH Delegate stated that, as his United States colleague had had the courtesy to inform him of these views before the present meeting, he had been able to communicate them to the competent French technical departments, where they had caused some astonishment. The civilian and military experts who had been consulted considered that the quartz oscillators involved had been distinctly surpassed and in military equipment were only used as spares, as such equipment was itself fairly old; for strategic purposes, use was made nowadays only of subminiature quartz oscillators having much higher frequencies than those at present involved. The Delegate finally stressed the very low value of this export and the fact that it was intended for a country to whose political economy the Committee had agreed to give some assistance. For these reasons the French Delegation had been instructed to request the United States Delegation to invite their authorities to reconsider their position in the light of the arguments just put forward.
3. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that he would not fail to refer the French Delegation's request to his authorities, although it seemed to him that in fact no new information had been supplied during the present meeting, but rather that there was merely a difference of appreciation.

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